

## Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

27 March 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: March 20, 2006

### Conditions Report

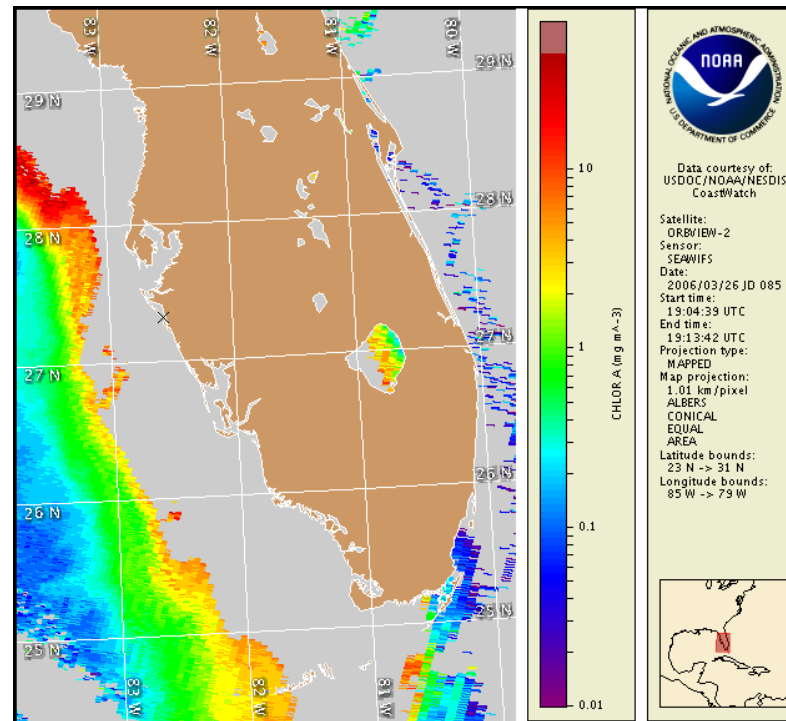
No impacts are expected in any Florida Counties this week. Due to current harmful algal bloom inactivity, bulletins are issued each Monday, until conditions warrant continuance of twice weekly bulletins.

### Analysis

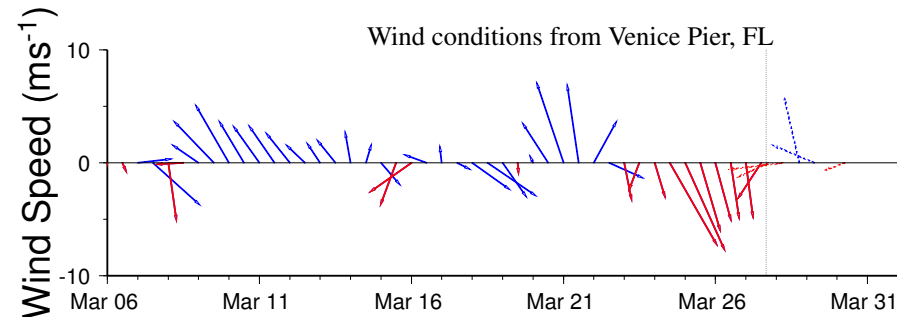
No *K. brevis* was detected last week in any samples from Citrus to Monroe County, or in offshore samples collected south of the Keys. Chlorophyll levels remain elevated (approximately 3-5  $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) in a band along the Gulf coast of the lower Keys. Samples for the past few weeks have not indicated the presence of *K. brevis* in this area, and conditions are not favorable for new bloom formation. Reports of discolored water are possible north of Marathon.

There is currently a satellite navigation issue that is resulting in a shift of the land mask in bulletin imagery. The gray fringe along the west coast of Florida is an artifact of this issue. GeoEye is aware of the problem.

-Stolz, Keller



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from March 17 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



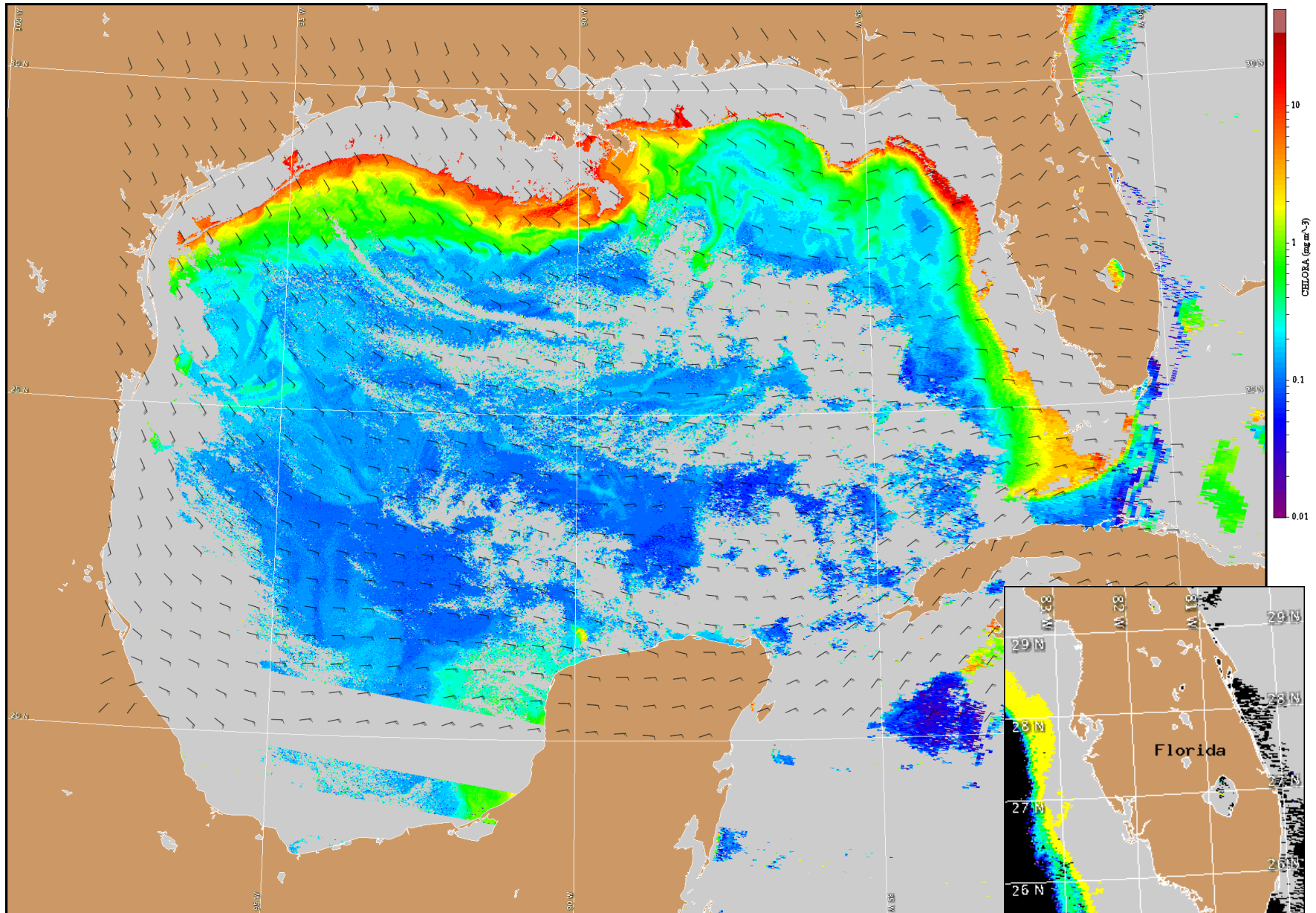
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Northeast winds today at 10 knots (5 m/s), becoming easterly tonight and southeasterly tomorrow through Wednesday. Winds clocking from northeast to east Wednesday night. Southeasterly winds Thursday at 10-15 knots (5-8 m/s) and Friday at 5-10 knots (3-5 m/s).

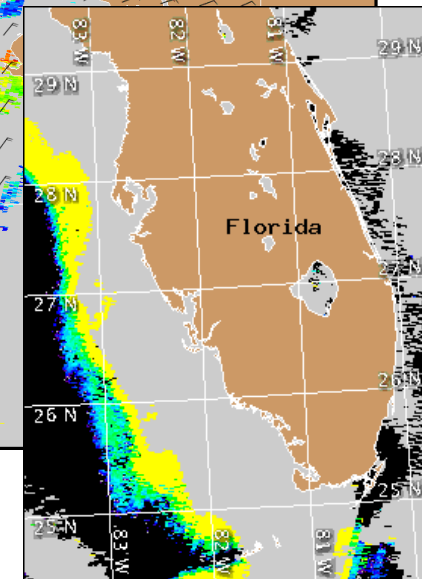
FL Keys: North to northeasterly winds today at 15-20 knots (8-10 m/s) becoming easterly by tonight. Easterly winds Tuesday through Friday at 15 knots (8 m/s).

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for March 28, 2006 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from March 17 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

